



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Akihiro YASUDA et al.

Art Unit: 2861

Appl. No. : 10/565,270
(U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP2004/014647)

Examiner: H. H. Tran

I.A. Filed : April 11, 2006

Confirmation No. : 4143

For : FIXING DEVICE AND TEMPERATURE CONTROL METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statement that was previously filed on July 6, 2006, and concurrent with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination (“RCE”), Applicants hereby bring to the attention of the Examiner a Japanese Notice of Reason for Rejection that was mailed on December 18, 2007, with respect to patent family member Japanese Patent Application No. 2005-514736, in which the following documents were cited:

1. Japanese Patent Publication No. JP 2002-72763 A, together with an English language Abstract and an English language partial translation thereof;
2. Japanese Patent Publication No. JP 2001-201978 A, together with an English language Abstract and an English language partial translation thereof;
3. Japanese Patent Publication No. JP 2002-357967 A;

4. Japanese Patent Publication No. JP 2003-076209 A, together with an English language Abstract and an English language partial translation thereof;
5. Japanese Patent Publication No. JP 2003-066762 A, together with an English language Abstract and an English language partial translation thereof;
6. Japanese Patent Publication No. JP 2-157782 A;
7. Japanese Patent Publication No. JP 10-74009 A;
8. Japanese Patent Publication No. JP 2002-236429 A, together with an English language Abstract thereof; and
9. Japanese Patent Publication No. JP 2003-215958 A, together with an English language Abstract thereof, and patent family members U.S. Patent No. 6,625,417 and U.S. Patent Application Publication Nos. 2003/0152406, 2003/0170055 and 2004/0081490.

The relevance of these documents, as ascertained with respect to the Japanese claims by the Japanese Examiner, is set forth in the Japanese Notice of Reason for Rejection. With regard to document 1, the Japanese Examiner asserts that a cooling device and a control means are disclosed. However, Applicants submit that the Examiner is incorrect and that a control means to instruct the cooling device as in the present application is not disclosed.

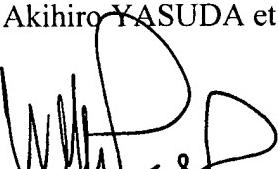
Applicants note that above-noted Documents 3, 6 and 7 were previously cited in the Information Disclosure Statement of July 6, 2006, and thus, copies of Documents 3, 6 and 7 are not provided herewith.

Further to 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(ii), copies of the U.S. patent publications are not enclosed herewith. However, if any copy is needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

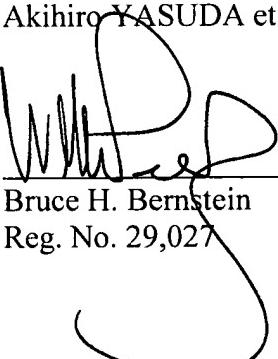
Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of the above-noted foreign documents, with the exception of Documents 3, 6 and 7, are attached hereto, and all of the documents, with the exception of Documents 3, 6 and 7, are listed on an attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the Japanese Notice of Reason for Rejection and an English language translation thereof are also attached hereto. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form, and to return a copy of the completed Form to Applicants with the next official communication in the present application.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted,
Akihiro YASUDA et al.


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January 14, 2008
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